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though the writer has adapted it to American interests by adding much new matter conforming to American practice. In declaring the aim of the volume, the writer in his introduction, after speaking of the desire of the lawyer to reach the highest eminence of the profession, says "to assist him to do so is the highest purpose of this volume."

The work is a very careful treatise and gives in detail valuable instructions for the conduct of cases. Besides doing this, it contains chapters on "Legal Ethics" and "Compensation and Advertising," which seem very proper at this time when competition among lawyers is so keen.

Although the more experienced lawyer may find suggestions and advice in the book which may seem to him common-place, he can certainly peruse it with interest and advantage; to the younger practitioner, whose experiences are limited, the work should prove invaluable.

*E. L. G.*

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TABLES FOR ASCERTAINING THE PRESENT VALUE OF VESTED AND CONTINGENT RIGHTS OF DOWER, CURTESY, ANNUITIES, AND OF OTHER LIFE ESTATES, DAMAGES FOR DEATH OR INJURY BY WRONGFUL ACT, NEGLIGENCE, OR DEFAULT, BASED CHIEFLY UPON THE CARLISLE TABLE OF MORTALITY. By FLORIAN GIANGUE and HENRY B. MCCLURE. Pp. x+202. Fourth edition. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke Company. 1904.

Perhaps the purpose and advantage of these tables can be presented in no better way than by quoting an extract from the preface of the authors. They say: "The use of life and annuity tables for ascertaining the present value of vested and of contingent life estates, including inchoate rights of dower and curtesy, and as aids in ascertaining the amount of damages recoverable for injury or death from another's wrongful act, negligence, etc., is not infrequently alluded to by the courts in such a way as to show that such usage is thoroughly accepted and approved. . . . The ascertaining of the present value of contingent life estates, such as an inchoate right of dower or of curtesy, required not only the use of an annuity table showing the value of an annuity on a single life, but also of other annuity tables, showing the value of an annuity during the joint continuance of two lives, these being, in the case of dower and curtesy, the lives of the husband and wife; and, owing to the large number of possible combinations of ages of these two lives, these latter tables are necessarily quite voluminous and are to be found complete only in technical books that are scarce and expensive and which are practically

inaccessible to most persons who need them with reference to such matters." The present volume is designed to present the tables above referred to, so computed as to be readily used and understood and yet to be not so expensive as to exclude it from the average library.

The computations have been carried out with the utmost care on the basis, principally, of the Carlisle Mortality Table, though Jones's "On the Value of Annuities and Reversionary Payments," Chisholm's Commutation Table, and Lawton and Griffith's "Life Tables" have also been used for computing some of the tables. Bowditch's table, showing the present value of inchoate dower and curtesy, is given as also the expectancy of life as shown by the six leading mortality tables, with an explanation thereof and comments of courts thereon.

The fourth edition differs very little from the third edition of the book, which was published in 1894, though the notes of decisions as to the use of mortality tables have been rearranged.

B. O. F.

#### NOTES ON RECENT LEADING ARTICLES IN LEGAL PERIODICALS.

##### THE AMERICAN LAWYER.

*Labor and the Law.* James H. Torrey. So much that is superficial and without more foundation than is given by reiterated platitudes is written on the labor question, on strikes, lockouts, boycotts, and the open shop, that we are led to take up such an article as this in the hope of penetrating more deeply below the surface and getting at that deeper truth which must underlie any question which is capable of so deeply engaging the public attention. Mr. Torrey takes up all these questions one after another under their specific heads and gives us very much what we have so often had before. In the cases cited we are shown, no doubt, the general trend of the law as declared by the courts of the English-speaking countries, even though Mr. Torrey's first citation might lead us to suppose that we are getting encyclopædic law, and that in its latest and not most attractive form. The bitterness that the author deprecates in the conduct of the labor unions is so large an ingredient in his own article that he is scarcely consistent in his wholesale condemnation of it in the labor unions.

*Sovereignty.* Judge Robert G. Street. (Address before the Texas Bar Association.) This is a sufficiently deep subject even for so learned a body as the Bar Association of a sovereign state, and it is approached in a serious spirit. The author has not that light touch so characteristic of the modern public speaker; his sentences are almost ponderous in their effect upon the reader; yet, as the subject treated involves the most serious problems of our national life, our most vital constitutional questions, it is well that they should meet with no flippancy, no half-jesting treatment. Perhaps there is no better way of indicating the matter and manner of the paper than by quoting from the closing portion the following extract:

"I have rapidly sketched the rise and development of the doctrine of sovereignty; have noted the various phases assumed by the social con-